

Standedge Tunnel Customer Guidelines



Following extensive trials during 2008, British Waterways will be operating a chaperoned system of trips through the Standedge Tunnel for the 2009 season. This means that you will be able to steer your own boat, under your own power, while being accompanied by a British Waterways' Tunnel "Chaperone" aboard your boat.

A lot of work is needed to make these Standedge Tunnel passages safe and enjoyable for all concerned. Please take your time to understand the special arrangements detailed here, for passage through the tunnel.

Timetable

Passage through the Standedge Tunnels is now available on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays (including Bank Holidays) between 30th March 2009 and 30th October 2009.

Departure times for passage through the tunnels are as follows:

Marsden to Diggle Tunnel portal (going West) -	8.30am, 9.15am and 10am
Diggle to Marsden Tunnel portal (going East) -	12.45pm, 1.30pm and 2.15pm

Boaters due to enter the tunnel must be available as follows:

Marsden to Diggle (East to West). Lock 32E will be unlocked at 8.30am on the day before passage. Boats must be through Lock 32E no later than 3.30pm. Boats can moor at the visitor centre from 5pm the evening before passage and will wait there until 8am when preparations for passage will start.

Diggle to Marsden (West to East). Lock 24W will be unlocked from 8am on day of passage to allow boats to travel up to the tunnel portal. All boats must be at the tunnel portal by no later than 11.30am, ready for your passage allocation. Once your journey is complete, you will be allowed to continue down the flight if required or you can moor at Marsden until the following day. Last time through Lock 42E is 4.30pm.

Bookings and availability

All required passages through the tunnel must be booked, either by completing and returning the enclosed booking form or by telephoning the Business Support Team between Monday - Friday 8.30am – 4.30pm on 0113 281 6860.

All bookings are subject to availability and it is recommended that bookings are made as far in advance as possible to avoid disappointment.

Please note that with the revised chaperone service, only one boat is permitted per time slot. However, in some exceptional circumstances it may be necessary for boats to be towed through the tunnel in a convoy system. In this situation you will be informed of any further conditions that will apply.

The following information is required on booking:

- Your Name
- Your Address
- Your Contact number (for contact when aboard boat)
- Boat name
- Boat Index Number
- Boat Length
- Is the boat principally steel or wood?
- Craft Licence or Boat Safety Scheme Number
- Number of passengers wishing to travel through the tunnel
- Do you have pets for transport? How many and what kind?
- Preferred date and time of travel
- Direction of travel - Marsden to Diggle (Westwards) or Diggle to Marsden (Eastwards)

Bookings must also be confirmed with our Business Support Team (Tel: 01132816860) at least 24 hours before the booked passage date.

Ticket Prices

Tickets are only available for boats displaying a current valid British Waterways' craft licence. Tickets are free for long term licence holders and cost £45.00 (one way) per boat for short term licence holders. Tickets are non-transferable.

Vessel requirements

Please ensure your craft dimensions are within the maximum limits specified on the enclosed 'Limiting Dimensions' form.

Please note that fibreglass boats and petrol engined boats are not permitted through the tunnel.

Please make sure you fill up the boat's water tank before your passage through the tunnel. This should add weight to your vessel and will help to ensure there is sufficient headroom for the passage. Water points are located at Marsden and Diggle.

Boat owners must ensure that all gas appliances are switched off prior to entering the tunnel and all stoves must be fully extinguished before passage.

Passenger requirements

A maximum of ten passengers (including the boat steerer but excluding the British Waterways chaperone) are permitted per boat per journey through the tunnels. However, it should be noted that in exceptional circumstances due to safety/operational requirements, passengers (excluding the boat steerer) will be required to make their own way to the other end of the Standedge Tunnel and at

their own expense (eg on foot or by taxi). This includes instances where (for example, but not limited to) communications systems in the tunnels are out of action, or a vessel has broken down in the tunnel.

All passengers must be capable of leaving the boat unaided in an emergency. This is in accordance with British Waterways' health and safety tunnel operation procedures. Every passenger must be able to ascend a vertical ladder (two metres in height) so that they may reach the escape platform within the Tunnel. We may refuse entry to the Tunnel any passenger whom we consider unable to meet this requirement.

If any of your passengers are unable to take the journey through the Standedge Tunnel, then British Waterways may be able to assist by booking a taxi for you, at your expense. Details are also available of a route over the Pennines, should any of your passengers wish to walk, and details of local bus routes.

PLEASE NOTE THAT WE CAN NOT TAKE THE HELM OF UNATTENDED BOATS.

All passengers wishing to remain on the outside of the boat during the passage through the tunnel will be issued with a hard hat and life jacket to be worn at all times whilst on the outside of the boat in the tunnel.

Each boat will be issued with lighting for navigation to be used for the duration of the passage.

A member of BW staff will accompany each boat to offer navigational advice and information.

Pets

Pets are permitted to travel through the Standedge Tunnels. Pets must be restrained inside the boat, by being tied or caged as appropriate. You must ensure that neither yourself nor the chaperone can be distracted, harmed or otherwise injured by the pet. It is essential that a person other than the boat steerer is responsible at all times for the supervision, restraint and care of the pet.

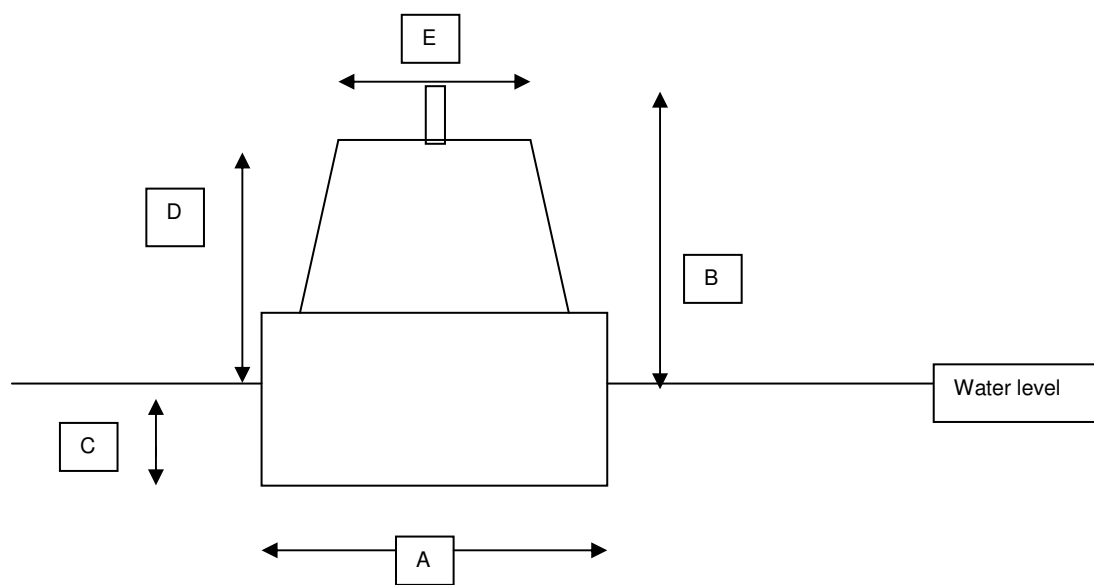
Please note that the tunnel is a confined space which the pet may have to endure for up to 3 hours. It may be outside the previous experience of the pet or owner and this may be distressing to the pet. If there is any doubt about the reaction of the pet, you should plan to have it transported by other means (e.g. by being carried/walked by someone over the Pennines or transported by other means). Simply closing the internal doors is insufficient to satisfy this requirement: the pet, including cats as well as dogs, must be tied or caged to completely exclude any possibility of becoming separated from the boat whilst inside the Tunnel.

N.B. Further Terms and Conditions apply. It is important that you and your passengers are familiar with and can comply with the terms and conditions BEFORE you book your passage through the Standedge Tunnel system.

Limiting Dimensions

Boats that exceed the following dimensions will be refused passage through the Standedge Tunnel. It is your responsibility to ensure that your boat fits within the maximum dimensions and fulfils other conditions as we reserve the right to refuse passage to any boat, which in our opinion, does not.

Measurements will be checked by the British Waterways' chaperone before travelling through the tunnels. All fenders and other fittings that project outside the outline of the boat and may catch on Tunnel surfaces (for example, navigation lights, step up plates) must be removed before passage. Any forward cratch covers must also be removed.



Maximum Length 70' (21.34m)

(A) Maximum Width 6' 10" (2.05m)

(B) Max. Height above water. 6' 2" (1.88m)

(C) Max. Draught below water 3' 3" (0.99m)

Maximum height to corners of cabin (D), in relation to width across cabin (E)

Where height of cabin corners above water level (D) is:	Then width of cabin at top (E) must be less than:	Where height of cabin corners above water level (D) is:	Then width of cabin at top (E) must be less than:
Less than 4' 10"	6' 8"	5' 7"	5' 2"
4' 10"	6' 8"	5' 8"	5' 0"
4' 11"	6' 8"	5' 9"	4' 8"
5' 0"	6' 6"	5' 10"	4' 6"
5' 1"	6' 4"	5' 11"	4' 4"
5' 2"	6' 2"	6' 0"	4' 2"
5' 3"	6' 0"	6' 1"	4' 0"
5' 4"	5' 8"	6' 2"	4' 0"
5' 5"	5' 6"	6' 2" is maximum height within tunnel	



TERMS & CONDITIONS for Canal Boat Through Passage of Standedge Tunnel

Please read these conditions carefully, they are part of Your agreement with Us.

1. Definitions

In these conditions –

“We”, “Us”, and “Our” refers to British Waterways, including our employees and agents to whom these conditions apply,

“You” means the person or persons named in the booking confirmation,

“Boat” means the boat or vessel booked by You for passage through the Tunnel,

“Passengers” means the persons (not exceeding ten, including You), who are to be transferred from one Tunnel portal to the other at the same time as the passage of the Boat,

“Passage date” means the date booked for travel through the Tunnel,

“Tunnel” means the Standedge Canal Tunnel on the Huddersfield Narrow Canal

“Tunnel passage” includes passage (in either direction) between the Tunnel portals.

2. Passage Agreement

This booking is an agreement for chaperoned passage of You and the Boat through the Tunnel on the date and at the time specified on Your booking confirmation note. That transfer will usually be on Your own Boat. However, in exceptional circumstances for safety/operational reasons, We may transport You and Your Passengers on an alternative vessel whilst towing Your vessel in convoy.

By making a booking with us, You accept these Conditions apply both to You and any other Passengers on whose behalf the booking is also made and You confirm that You have the necessary authority of such persons to give that acceptance on their behalf.

3. Prices and Payment

Tunnel passage for Boats possessing a current long term British Waterways craft licence is free. The fee for short term British Waterways craft licence holders is £45.00 for each one way Tunnel passage per Boat. The booking includes free passage through the Tunnel for up to 10 Passengers per booking (including You), where possible. In convoy situations this will be limited to 4 free Passengers. Bookings will be accepted subject to passage availability.

Bookings may only be made by Us at the British Waterways Leeds Office. Bookings may be made by phone, in writing or in person. A booking is only confirmed and binding on receipt of Our written confirmation.

4. Safety and other Passage Requirements

We reserve the right to refuse any passage to any Boat not complying with (a) these conditions, (b) the current British Waterways' Licence conditions, (c) Boat Safety Scheme provisions or restrictions and safety requirements issued by Us from time to time, or (d) restrictions and other conditions notified to You in advance of the passage. We reserve the right to refuse passage to any Boat that is without a confirmed booking. We reserve the right to refuse to carry any Passenger who is considered unsuitable for Tunnel passage for health and safety reasons. Full Tunnel passage is unsuitable and not available for people with physical disabilities, which would prevent them from disembarking unaided. Passage may not be suitable for young children because of the nature of the trip, but children of all ages are accepted provided that they are closely supervised at all times by a responsible adult. Members of Your party not able to make the Tunnel trip must make their own arrangements. BW can provide details of the walking route over the Pennines, or book a taxi for You at Your expense.

Pets will be allowed to travel through the Tunnel, however they must be restrained inside the Boat, either by being securely tied up or in a suitable animal box/cage. This is so as not to cause a distraction or harm to Our staff or the Boat steerer. Failure to secure Your pet will result in You not being allowed passage. The Tunnel is a confined space and passage can take between 2 and 3 hours, as such it can cause some disturbance to animals. If there is any doubt over the reaction by animals it is advised that they are taken by road accompanied by an owner.

Passage through the lock flights either side of the Tunnel is limited to Boats making the Tunnel passage. You must arrive at the designated lock by the time specified in the booking confirmation form in order to proceed through the flight. Once at the Tunnel portals You will need to be

present at Your Boat from 8am for passage from Marsden to Diggle (East to West) and from 11.30am for passage from Diggle to Marsden (West to East) for all preliminary checks and preparations to be made. If You arrive late You may not be allowed passage at the booked time, in which case We will arrange passage for You to pass through the Tunnel at the next available time, this could be another day. We shall not be obliged to arrange another passage for You in these circumstances. If We are unable to provide alternative passage We are not liable for costs incurred by You.

You must follow Our instructions for the preparation of the Boat for passage. Please see the accompanying notes on suitability of craft for passage. It is Your responsibility to ensure that Your Boat complies with these notes and guidelines on suitability. We reserve the right to refuse passage to any Boat that is considered unsuitable for Tunnel passage.

You agree to allow Us to inspect the Boat (both internally and externally) prior to Tunnel passage. If an inspection is refused, the Boat will be deemed to be unsuitable for passage.

Equipment or material carried on any deck of a Boat must be properly secured or removed prior to entry into the Tunnel.

No smoking, other use of naked flame, or consumption of alcohol is permitted during Tunnel passage. All Passengers must respect the health, safety and comfort of other Passengers and Our staff and must comply with Our safety instructions and any reasonable request made by Us during Tunnel passage.

You and Your Passengers must abide by the terms and conditions detailed in the Standedge Tunnel Customer Guidelines.

5. Cancellations and Changes

If You wish to change a booking You must contact Us at the British Waterways Leeds Office immediately by telephone to ensure that there is an available passage on the new date requested and then confirm the change in writing. Bookings may not be transferred less than 3 days before the Passage date.

If You wish to cancel a booking You must notify Us at the British Waterways Leeds Office up to 48 hours before passage by telephone. Failure to do so may result in a £50 administration charge. This charge will also apply if You refuse passage through the Tunnel once on site.

If any charges for an earlier cancelled Tunnel passage are outstanding, We may refuse any further Tunnel passage until these are paid.

6. Cancellations by Us

We reserve the right to cancel or delay a booked passage at any time on grounds of compliance with the safe operation of the Tunnel as set out in the Tunnel Operations Procedures. In the event of such delays or cancellations We shall notify You as soon as possible and offer an alternative passage.

Please note that where passage is cancelled on grounds that Your Boat is, in Our opinion, unsuitable for passage, a £50 administration charge may be made. It is Your responsibility to ensure that Your Boat complies with the published guidelines on suitability and that Your Boat has a current British Waterways' licence.

7. Limitation of liability

You are in charge of the Boat during passage with Our staff acting in an advisory capacity. As such You are responsible for the safety of everyone aboard the Boat. We shall not be liable for any damage to the Boat or its contents.

You are also responsible for any equipment given to You and as such We expect this to be returned in good order. Failure to return equipment in good order may result in a charge for loss/damage.

We shall not be liable for any losses or costs incurred as a result of any delay or cancellation by Us of Tunnel passage.

We shall not be liable under this agreement for any loss or damage caused by Us in circumstances where (i) there is no breach of a legal duty of care owed to You, or any Passenger by Us, (ii) such loss or damage is not a reasonably foreseeable consequence of such a breach, (iii) any increase in loss or damage results from breach by You or any other Passenger, of any term of this agreement.

8. Waiver

Any breach of these conditions by You or any other Passenger shall not be a waiver of any continuing breach or any other breach of these conditions.

**British Waterways, Fearn's Wharf, Neptune Street, Leeds, LS98PB
Telephone: 0113 281 6860**

